



The

# MARKETPLACE

For Recycling Commodities

Kentucky Recycling Assistance Section

December 2014

## Industry Group Says Foodservice Packaging not a Contamination Concern

According to *Resource Recycling*, a second study from manufacturers of food packaging aims to drive home the point that the products from those companies are not too contaminated for curbside recycling.

The recently conducted effort from the Foodservice Packaging Institute (FPI) follows the first segment of the report which was released at the end of last year.

The latest research looked at a sampling of 2,600 pounds of residential recyclables collected in southern Delaware. Researchers separated the material into two categories—foodservice packaging and other packaging in contact with food—and then went through the loads on an item-by-item basis. Products were given one of three ratings: high food residue contamination, medium or low.

The two categories proved to have roughly the same proportion of low- and high-level contaminated products, according to FPI's report. The foodservice packaging had a slightly higher proportion of medium-level contamination.

Fpi's earlier study, which looked at samples collected in Boston, found roughly similar contamination levels across the board when looking at foodservice packaging and other materials that came into contact with food residue. Together, FPI stated, the two studies indicate tubs, lids and other material categories in the foodservice realm should be regularly included in residential recycling streams.

"One of the most common reasons that municipal programs do not accept foodservice packaging is the concern about increased levels of food contamination in recyclables," Lynn M. Dyer, president of FPI, said in a press release. "The encouraging results of the Delaware study provide us a different representative sample of food residue on foodservice packaging. They assist in

corroborating our findings of foodservice packaging residue as a perceived barrier in recycling programs rather than a real obstacle."

For more information on this study and FPI, visit <http://www.fpi.org/Take-Two-A-Second-Look-at-Foodservice-Packaging-and-Food-Residue-in-MRFs>.

## Fewer Waxed Boxes Means Boost for OCC Stream

According to *Resource Recycling*, the use of wax coatings on corrugated containers continues to decline, thus bringing added smiles to paper recovery firms.

The Corrugated Packaging Alliance reports waxed coating usage dropped below 3 percent of total corrugated paperboard consumption in the U.S. in 2013. This is approximately half the usage of wax coatings of a decade ago. Wax coatings preserve the strength of boxes when used for wet or iced applications, such as shipping fruit, vegetables, seafood, poultry and meat.

To date, some 47 different alternative coating applications have passed certification testing as to their repulpability and recyclability.

## Recycling Market Prognosis

*Resource Recycling* reports that recycling market players suggest these trends for December and January.

|          | <u>Demand</u>    | <u>Price</u>       |
|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Ferrous  | Merely adequate  | Flat to down       |
| Aluminum | Sufficient       | Horizontal at best |
| Paper    | Not quite enough | Slow decline       |
| Plastic  | Resin will move  | Going nowhere      |



| COMMODITY                              | Jun-14   | Jul-14        | Aug-14        | Sep-14        | Oct-14        | Nov-14        | Dec-14        | Dec-13        |
|--|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b><u>PAPER-\$/TON</u></b>             | <b>RISI Official Board Markets (Midwest/Chicago area) FOB</b>        |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-14</b>  | <b>Jul-14</b> | <b>Aug-14</b> | <b>Sep-14</b> | <b>Oct-14</b> | <b>Nov-14</b> | <b>Dec-14</b> | <b>Dec-13</b> |
| #2 mixed paper                         | \$35-40  | \$35-40       | \$35-40       | \$35-40       | \$35-40       | \$35-40       | \$35-40       | \$35-40       |
| #37 sorted office paper (SOP)          | \$125-135  | \$130-140     | \$130-140     | \$130-140     | \$130-140     | \$125-135     | \$125-135     | \$115-125     |
| #8 ONP                                 | \$50-55  | \$50-55       | \$50-55       | \$50-55       | \$50-55       | \$50-55       | \$50-55       | \$50-55       |
| #40 sorted white ledger (SWL)          | \$200-210  | \$200-210     | \$210-220     | \$210-220     | \$210-220     | \$210-220     | \$210-220     | \$200-210     |
| #11 OCC                                | \$75-80  | \$75-80       | \$75-80       | \$70-75       | \$70-75       | \$65-70       | \$65-70       | \$85-90       |
| <b><u>PLASTICS-¢/LB.</u></b>           | <b>Recycling Markets.Net/Secondary Materials Pricing - FOB</b>       |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-14</b>  | <b>Jul-14</b> | <b>Aug-14</b> | <b>Sep-14</b> | <b>Oct-14</b> | <b>Nov-14</b> | <b>Dec-14</b> | <b>Dec-13</b> |
| #1 PET - mixed (clear & green)         | \$0.19   | \$0.18        | \$0.18        | \$0.18        | \$0.17        | \$0.17        | \$0.16        | \$0.17        |
| #2 HDPE (natural-milk jugs)            | \$0.48   | \$0.51        | \$0.54        | \$0.55        | \$0.55        | \$0.45        | \$0.43        | \$0.36        |
| #2 HDPE (colored-detergent btl.)       | \$0.28   | \$0.30        | \$0.28        | \$0.30        | \$0.31        | \$0.28        | \$0.27        | \$0.26        |
| <b><u>GLASS-\$/TON</u></b>             | <b>Recycling Markets.Net/Secondary Materials Pricing - Delivered</b> |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-14</b>  | <b>Jul-14</b> | <b>Aug-14</b> | <b>Sep-14</b> | <b>Oct-14</b> | <b>Nov-14</b> | <b>Dec-14</b> | <b>Dec-13</b> |
| clear (flint)                          | \$32.00  | \$32.00       | \$32.00       | \$32.00       | \$32.00       | \$32.00       | \$32.00       | \$32.00       |
| brown (amber)                          | \$22.00  | \$22.00       | \$22.00       | \$22.00       | \$22.00       | \$22.00       | \$22.00       | \$22.00       |
| green                                  | \$11.00  | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       | \$11.00       |
| <b><u>METALS</u></b>                   | <b>Recycling Markets.Net/Secondary Materials Pricing - Delivered</b> |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
| -                                      | <b>Jun-14</b>  | <b>Jul-14</b> | <b>Aug-14</b> | <b>Sep-14</b> | <b>Oct-14</b> | <b>Nov-14</b> | <b>Dec-14</b> | <b>Dec-13</b> |
| aluminum beverage cans (UBC) cents/lb. | \$0.79   | \$0.78        | \$0.79        | \$0.79        | \$0.78        | \$0.78        | \$0.78        | \$0.68        |
|  | <b>Recycling Markets.Net/Secondary Materials Pricing - Delivered</b> |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |
|  | <b>Jun-14</b>  | <b>Jul-14</b> | <b>Aug-14</b> | <b>Sep-14</b> | <b>Oct-14</b> | <b>Nov-14</b> | <b>Dec-14</b> | <b>Dec-13</b> |
| steel cans \$/TON                      | \$110-120  | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     | \$110-120     |



Energy and  
Environment Cabinet

### Kentucky Recycling Assistance Section

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